

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01307 160920Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----038190 160921Z /10
O 160851Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9352

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 1307

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV OTRA KS US
SUBJ: TONGSUN PARK TRAVEL

REF: SEOUL 1220

1. BUREAU DIRECTOR PAK SANG YONG FEBRUARY 16 INFORMED EMBASSY OF FOLLOWING FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING PARK TONGSUN TRAVEL TO US. HE SAID PTS HAD APPLIED FOR PASSPORT FEBRUARY 15 AND THAT AS REPORTED EARLIER ROKG IS PLANNING TO GIVE HIM REGULAR PASSPORT, LIMITED TO VALIDITY OF THREE MONTHS, GOOD FOR ONLY ONE TRIP.

2. ROKG HOPES THAT TERMS OF PARK'S ADMISSION TO US CAN BE DESCRIBED IN TERMS OTHER THAN "PAROLE". DIRECTOR PAK SUGGESTED USE OF PHRASE SUCH AS "SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT". HE ALSO REQUESTED MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON PAROLE PROVISIONS.

3. PARK PLANS TO TRAVEL WITH TWO COMPANIONS AS FOLLOWS:
MR. CHOI MYUNG KYU, BORN [Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 05 DEC 2014], CHIEF OF TRADE SECTION II, MILYUNG SANGSA COMPANY (PARK'S FIRM), WHO WILL PROVIDE ASSISTANCE ON CLERICAL MATTERS; AND
KIM IN-SOO, BORN FEBRUARY 6, 1933, A CHAUFFEUR FOR MILYUNG SANGSA, WHO WILL SERVE AS VALET AND ASSISTANT.
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THEY ARE APPLYING FOR PASSPORTS WHICH MINISTRY EXPECTS TO ISSUE ON SIMILAR BASIS AS PARK, BUT THEY WILL BE SEEKING US VISAS.

4. PLAN CONTINUES TO BE FOR PARK AND COMPANIONS TO LEAVE KOREA FEBRUARY 23 AND ARRIVE WASHINGTON FEB. 26. DETAILS OF ITINERARY, INCLUDING PARK'S WHEREABOUTS

DURING INTERIM, NOT YET AVAILABLE.

5. REQUEST EARLIEST POSSIBLE RESPONSE TO REFTEL. WE HOPE TO BE AS ACCOMMODATING AS POSSIBLE IN MEETING MOFA REQUESTS, AND WILL TRY TO AVOID USE OF WORD "PAROLE" IN ANY DISCUSSION ON THE SUBJECT. SUGGEST WE STATE IF ASKED "PARK IS TRAVELING TO THE UNITED STATES UNDER THE SPECIAL AUTHORITY GRANTED TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL UNDER SECTION 212 OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT." THOSE WHO LOOK UP THE ACT WILL FIND THE WORD THERE BUT AT LEAST WE WILL NOT PUT IT IN THE PUBLIC PRESS OURSELVES. WE ARE ALSO PROVIDING DIRECTOR PAK COPY OF PERTINENT PORTION OF IMMIGRATION ACT AND AT HIS REQUEST A COPY OF FORM LETTER ISSUED TO TRAVELER ATTESTING TO HIS PAROLE STATUS. AS REGARDS PTS' TWO COMPANIONS, EMBASSY PLANS TO GIVE THEM B-1 SINGLE ENTRY VISAS ON COMPLETION OF APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION AND NAME CHECKS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, PERSONNEL TRAVEL, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SEOUL01307
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780071-0442
Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780246/aaaabnai.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8e7247d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 SEOUL 1220
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3571358
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TONGSUN PARK TRAVEL
TAGS: PGOV, OTRA, KS, US, (TONGSUN PARK)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8e7247d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014